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per capita cost of government, as measured by the ad valorem taxes, is \$23.37 in Massachusetts, \$22.80 in New York, \$14.37 in Illinois and only \$11.52 in Pennsylvania.

SECOND YPRES FIGHT LOCAL ENGAGEMENT

German Advance Lacks Significance Seen in November Battle—Too Soon to Talk of "New Drive to Channel."

By FRANK H. SIMONDS. DESPITE the reports which have so far been published describing the contest now proceeding about Ypres, it is by no means clear that the present struggle is comparable with the great battle of November fought on the same fields.

New Factors Presented. But a second fight on the same ground opens wholly new horizons. First of all, British strength in France has risen from 120,000 to 750,000.

Beyond these advantages lies that incident to the fortification of allied lines. For months this work has gone on, trench by trench, one line upon another; the British, Belgians and French have dug themselves into a position, held one under terrible pressure, when it was hardly fortified at all.

"Nibbling" Tactics Borrowed. Now, on the present evidence, this is a perfect repetition of the allied tactics of "nibbling," which were exemplified at Neuve Chapelle and about St. Mihiel.

THE VIRTUE OF HUMILITY. Humility is a virtue all preach, none practice; and yet everybody is content to hear—John Selden.

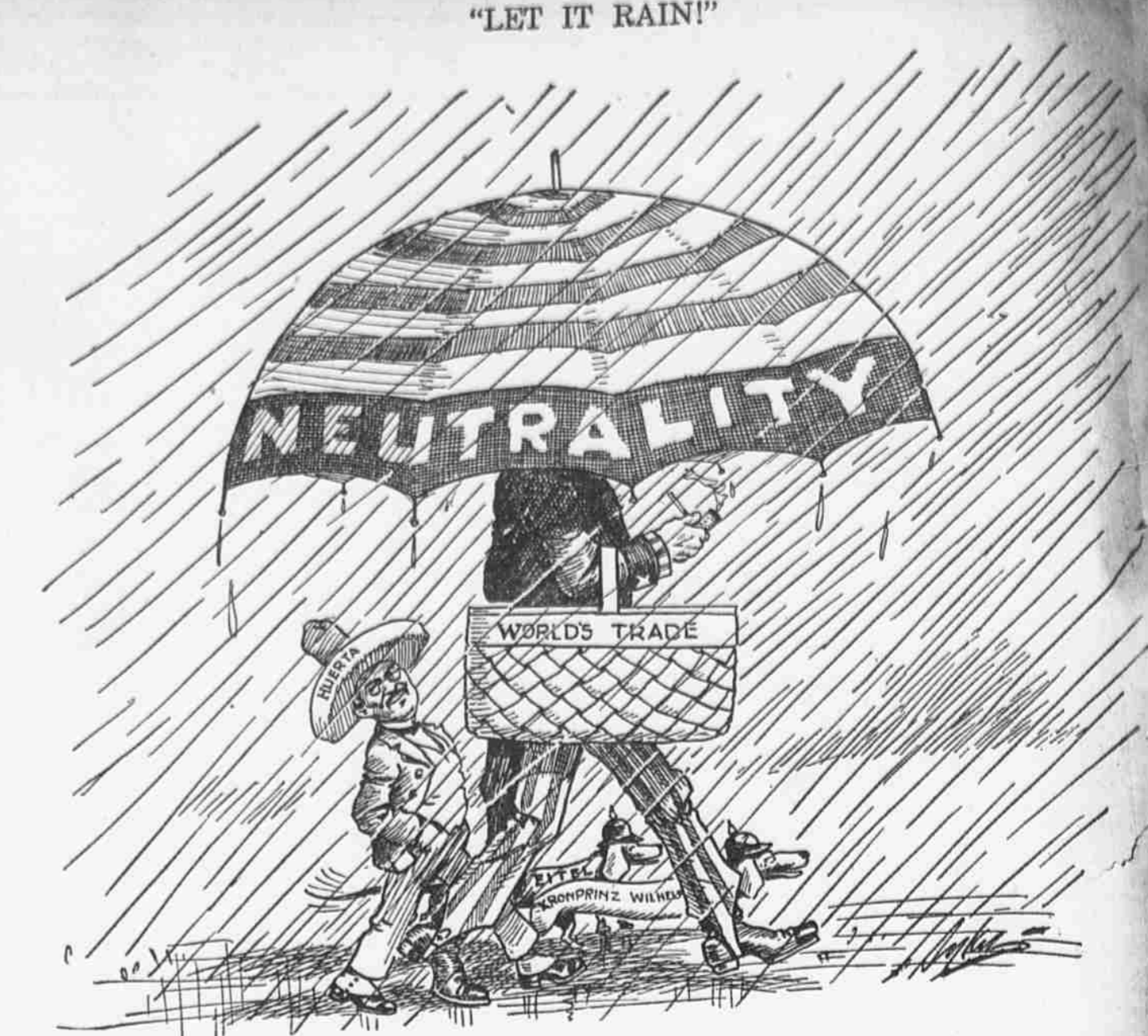
THE CREATOR OF THE GERMAN NAVY

ONE of the most interesting of yesterday's war dispatches was the quotation of a telegram sent by the Kaiser to Admiral von Tirpitz, Minister of Marine and Admiral of the fleet.



VON TIRPITZ

When the Kaiser called him from duty at an Asiatic station, Tirpitz was not "von." Tirpitz came of a somewhat plebeian family, according to standards which previously had determined rank and promotion in the German navy.



LIVING ABOVE THE EARTHQUAKE

The People of the Abruzzi Build Houses of Stone After Every Destructive Shock—A Town in the Azores That Has Risen Many Times From Similar Ruin.

By SAMUEL HARRIS. AGAIN the demons down under the land have violently shaken Italy. The gods of war and the gods of the earthquake seem to be conspiring against the peace and prosperity of the nation.

Not So Strange, After All. Human nature triumphs over fear, however, and the Abruzzi seem to lose none of its attractiveness as a place of abode.

READING HISTORY. He who reads history learns to distinguish what is local from what is universal; what is transitory from what is eternal; to discriminate between exceptions and rules; to trace the operation of disturbing causes; to separate the general principles, which are always true and everywhere applicable, from the accidental circumstances with which in every community they are blended, and with which, in an isolated community, they are confounded by the most philosophical mind.

Misfortunes of Villa Franca. A poor little island village of the Azores has trembled in sympathy with almost every volcanic eruption or violent earthquake that has been felt in any part of the world in the last five centuries.

THE MARTYRS' HYMN. Flung to the heedless winds, or on the waters east, The martyrs' ashes watched shall gather in at last; And from that scattered dust, around us and abroad, Shall spring a plenteous seed of witness to God.

People Have the Transit Issue in Their Own Hands

AT LAST the people of Philadelphia have the transit issue in their own hands. By an overwhelming vote in favor of the \$6,000,000 loan they can assure the beginning of work this summer and the achievement of the comprehensive system outlined.

Closing Balm Pats for "Wounded Hearts" IT IS not an offense against the law for parents to use their best judgment in making their children happy, even after the children marry.

Put Your Slaves to Work. IT WAS a wise man who said that while he admired Fulton and Edison, he was sure that the greatest of all inventors was the man who invented interest.

Save the Babies. STATISTICIANS can tell within a small fraction of error just how many babies will die on account of the ignorance of their mothers this summer.

Better Reduce Than Raise Auto Fees. THE time is not far distant when the propriety of compelling the owner of an automobile to pay a license for the privilege of operating it on the highways will be almost as questionable as the propriety of compelling the owner of a horse and carriage to get a license before he can use the streets.

Is Government Worth What It Costs? POLITICIANS talk continuously about retrenchment and reform, as though the people were intensely interested in these subjects.

He who hesitates is bossed. If to be undecided is to be neutral, that is Italy. The best seller is the man who delivers the goods. Riding in automobiles is just one jitney after another.

All the gas in Europe is not in the trenches by any means. What has Mr. Roosevelt's being a boss got to do with the charge that Mr. Barnes and Mr. Murphy worked in union? Secretary Daniels says that the navy is in better shape than it ever was before, yet many people find that statement very discouraging. The best government is not that which considers it a crime for people to have money, but that which encourages those who haven't any to get some.

An Arena Ripe for Peace

BASEBALL is an American habit and a national institution. A professional sport, to be successful, is necessarily highly organized. A discipline almost as strict as that required in an army is imperative.

Doubtless details of the peace will be announced in the near future. The end of the anarchy which has existed will be intensely gratifying to the public, which has grown tired of the endless bickering.

Every agency in the city interested in the protection of public health and the conservation of life will be more or less active in warning mothers of the perils that beset their offspring.

Centuries of human experience have shown that a fool is known by the rapidity with which he separates himself from his money. Learn to be a saver and you will never be a loafer.

It is a little bit of common sense, and it is a little bit of common sense that says that the man who hesitates is bossed.

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It may be said that the extra expense is due to the uniform increase in the cost of everything, but the more plausible explanation is that it has arisen from the growing extravagance of government. It manifests itself not only in increased salaries to public servants, but in new enterprises which might better be left to individual initiative and individual management.